

**SECRET**

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EDD *S*  
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IDEA 0030/67  
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16 January 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Operations, OSA  
SUBJECT : IDEALIST Life Support Equipment

1. During [ ] recent visit to [ ] the following nine items relating to Life Support were discussed with detachment personnel;

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- a. Modification of survival kit rucksacks with CO<sub>2</sub> and oral inflation systems.
- b. Provision of let-down ropes for tree landings.
- c. Modification of survival kit lanyards for manual or automatic inflation.
- d. Installation of adjustable automatic deployment devices for use in flights over areas of very high terrain.
- e. Modification of the canopies with deflation pockets. (A Navy development which spills the canopy upon contact with water and prevents dragging.)
- f. Walk-around sleeping bags in seat cushions.
- g. "Four line cut" or related action to make 35-foot canopy steerable and reduce oscillation.

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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h. Modification of rucksacks with adjustable carrying straps.

1. Procurement of 35-foot canopies for the parasail.

2. For reasons unknown to the detachment and this division these items appear to be in a hold status or are proceeding at a distressingly slow rate. Since seven of the nine actions are of vital life saving proportions, we share [ ] concern and urge that action be initiated by R&D/OSA as soon as possible to bring the IDEALIST Life Support equipment up to standard.

SIGNED

[ ]  
Chief, Intelligence Division  
Office of Special Activities

INTEL/O/OSA/[ ] (16 Jan 67)

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